

Application No. 09/669,283  
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### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-53 are pending in the present application.

Claim 32 has been objected to based on a specified informality, and Applicants submit that this objection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 32.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 25, 26, 28, 31, 32, 38, 39, 41, 44, 45, 51 and 52 are rejected. In response, Applicants have canceled these rejected claims.

Claims 2, 3, 6-10, 13, 15, 16, 19-21, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, 33-37, 40, 42, 43, 46-50 and 53 are objected to. In response, Applicants have amended these claims to be in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Craig Plastrik, at 301-601-7252, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,



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